

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 MEETING**

Access via phone (646) 558 8656 or via web at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) with Meeting ID 938 4335 9951 / Password 953838.

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:04 P.M. on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 and was again conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth related to the Covid19 pandemic.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Al Laakso, Andrea Chasen, David Dumais, John Bresnahan, Stephen Gazillo, Roman Berman, Christopher Nolan. **Absent:** Kiernan Mulcahy.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ms. Christina Wagner, Environmental Consultant Michael Mocko.

**MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:** Mr. Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Ms. Chasen, to accept the minutes of September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as amended. Roll call vote: Ms. Chasen, yes; Mr. Laakso: yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes; Mr. Gazillo: yes. All in favor 5-0, motion passed, minutes were accepted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Salary \$5,662.79, Maintenance \$800, Office Supplies \$100, Miscellaneous \$-21.00, Wetlands Protection Fund \$7,428.15, ConCom Trust Fund \$9,469.31.

*Mr. Christopher Nolan joined the meeting at 7:08pm*

**ENFORCEMENT ORDER – 1255 WILLIAMS ST:** Ms. Wagner's restoration plan, prepared in consultation with the Longmeadow Tree Committee, consists of the planting of two Shagbark Hickories, one Bald Cypress and one Red Maple on the southeast corner of the property near the location of the removed trees and, possibly, one Northern Pecan tree on the northwest corner of the property. The Red Maple will be planted to replace an existing Norway Maple tree that will be removed at the Tree Committee's recommendation, who flagged said tree as an invasive species. The tree saplings are already in the property and are being watered and cared for, with final planting to take place in the next few weeks. Mr. Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Bresnahan, to accept the restoration plan as presented with the expectation that the commission received reports of tree planting and growth process within one year of planting and that any saplings that do not survive be replaced immediately. Roll call vote: Ms. Chasen, yes; Mr. Laakso: yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes; Mr. Gazillo: yes; Mr. Nolan: no. Five in favor, one opposed (5-1), motion passed.

**RDA – LONGMEADOW COUNTRY CLUB:** Mr. John Bresnahan has recused himself as commissioner and acted as a representative of the applicant, the Longmeadow Country Club. The intent is to replace the existing 50-year old, 650-head irrigation system with a new water efficient, precision driven 1000-head system (heads, controls, software) and a new above-ground pump within the existing pump house. In order to allow continuous use of the golf course, the construction timeline is phased and has begun in portions of the course that are away from the resource areas with an intent to complete the project prior to ground frost. The construction method consists of sod removal, trench excavation, pipe installation, trench backfilling and sod reinstatement; in locations near the resource areas, the soil will not be exposed beyond a 24-hour period and work will be temporarily halted in the event of a heavy rainfall forecast.

Mr. Nolan made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Gazillo, to issue a Negative Determination #2 and #6 for the irrigation system installation project at Longmeadow Country Club (400 Shaker Road). Roll call vote: Ms. Chasen, yes; Mr. Laakso: yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Gazillo: yes; Mr. Nolan: yes. All in favor 5-0 with one abstention (Mr. Bresnahan), motion passed.

*Mr. Michael Mocko joined the meeting at 7:40pm and Mr. John Bresnahan was reinstated as commissioner.*

**RDA – 168 DUNN RD:** Mr. Mike Mocko indicated that he recently inspected the riverfront property under Title V where it was found that the septic system's leaching field values were higher than usual, in part due to a newly discovered leaking fixture within the home. Consequently, the existing septic system is to be replaced with a newer and larger capacity system in nearly the same location, which is approximately 90 feet from the normal high water/bank line of the Connecticut River per latest floodplain maps. Provision 310 CMR 10:58 (c) allows the described scope of work. Silt fencing and seeding will be provided. It is recommended that this new system be cleaned out once every four years, which is the standard state recommendation for dwelling units without garbage disposals, with the system's operation effectiveness being monitored and enforced by the Board of Health. In the event of a river flood, the septic system's design and location underground are likely to remain intact with its contents effectively contained.

Mr. Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Mr. Bresnahan, to issue a Negative Determination #2 and #6 for the spetic system project to be performed at 168 Dunn Road. Roll call vote: Ms. Chasen, yes; Mr. Laakso: yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Breshanah; yes; Mr. Gazillo: yes; Mr. Nolan: yes. All in favor 6-0, motion passed.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – The following items were discussed:

1. Mr. Mocko added that, as the consultant hired by the property owners of 45 Twin Hills Drive to address the enforcement order issued within the last year, he has observed vegetation growth in the areas that were cleared, with many of the shrubs being native species. A restoration plan will be submitted in the near future.
2. Mr. Laakso indicated that the commission has been consulted for a number of project, therefore a number of RDAs are expected to be received in the coming weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bianca Damiano*